

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2015

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 96) establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2015 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2016 through 2024:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to the Republican Budget Resolution and in strong support of the Congressional Black Caucus' Alternative Budget.

To say that the Republican Budget Resolution is dangerous is an understatement. In particular, two areas of great concern to me will be negatively impacted by this resolution.

As the Ranking Member of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and former chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, I urge the Appropriations Committee to come as close as possible to maintaining the FY 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act levels of investment in research and development and STEM education. R&D and STEM education are critical to our nation's future, and we support the topline levels in the President's FY 2015 budget request and Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative for the Federal R&D agencies as worthy of support.

Shortchanging those accounts will wind up shortchanging our future economy and quality of life. Increased investment in these areas will pay significant dividends over the long run.

As Members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), we aim to be the, "Conscience of the Congress." I feel compelled to discuss the disastrous effects the Ryan Republican Budget would have on our country's research and development enterprise, and consequently, the disastrous effect this budget would have on America's future competitiveness.

As others have pointed out, the Republican Budget cuts non-defense discretionary spending by 1.3 trillion dollars below the baseline 2014 spending level, adjusted for inflation. These are massive cuts on top of a budget that has already seen large reductions in recent years. The effects on research and development would be dramatic. The American Association for the Advancement of Science estimates that the Ryan budget would cut civilian research and development by 92 billion dollars from the current baseline and 112 billion dollars below the President's budget request.

These are striking reductions. Please keep in mind here that the National Science Foundation's total annual budget is just a little over seven billion dollars. So the Republican Budget cuts more research and development funding every year than the entire annual budget of the National Science Foundation.

Additionally, as a senior Member of the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, I am incensed that this budget fails to address our nation's aging infrastructure.

Millions of Americans would be negatively impacted by this measure, leaving families, in-

dividuals and businesses with virtually no transportation options. This proposal would do away with Amtrak operating subsidies, potentially eliminating service for more than 20 million people.

Most shamefully, however, this budget includes virtually no highway or transit investment and does little to address the impending crisis facing our nation's highways. In fact, this resolution assigns a spending level of \$20.95 billion for transportation and infrastructure. This is a reduction of \$50.99 billion from last year and eviscerates the total transportation and infrastructure budget.

For the third year in a row, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has awarded our nation's infrastructure a "D+." Time and time again, it becomes clear that investing in our infrastructure lays the groundwork for a competitive economy. What we need now is targeted investment in our infrastructure, not draconian reductions.

Our infrastructure is too important to gamble on and the Republican Budget resolution is a roll of the dice. It would result in the loss of thousands of construction related jobs in already economically disadvantaged areas and cut public transportation funding to historically low levels.

Quite frankly, this budget is dangerous and I ask my Republican colleagues to scrap this plan and work across the aisle to craft a plan that invests in our future. A budget that ignores funding for science and technology, and fails to include targeted infrastructure investments, fails the American future.

The Congressional Black Caucus' 'budget includes \$500 billion in targeted investments and programs that invest in our future. It closes tax loopholes, deductions and exceptions that only benefit the wealthy. Addressing the past wrongs of wealth inequality will help create an economy that works for every American. Passing the CBC's Alternative Budget is the first step in righting those wrongs.

TRIBUTE TO YOUNG STAFF MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE 18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS AND THE UNITED STATES

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress we know well, perhaps better than most, how blessed our Nation is to have in reserve such exceptional young men and women who will go on to become leaders in their local communities, states, and the nation in the areas of business, education, government, philanthropy, the arts and culture, and the military.

We know this because we see them and benefit from their contributions every day. Many of them work for us in our offices as junior staff members, congressional fellows, or interns and they do amazing work for and on behalf of the constituents we are privileged to represent.

Mr. Speaker, I believe there is no higher calling than the call to serve a cause larger than ourselves. That is why I ran for public of-

fice. I was inspired to serve by President Kennedy who said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country," and by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who said:

Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. . . . You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.

By this measure, there are several other great young men and women who served as volunteers this year in my offices. They may toil in obscurity but their contributions to the constituents we serve are deeply appreciated and that is why today I rise to pay tribute to four extraordinary young persons for their service to my constituents in the 18th Congressional District of Texas and to the American people. They are: Aidé Meza, Josh Crook, Katherine Welbeck, and Ayanna Costley.

I wish to thank Aidé Meza, who graduated with honors from the University of Houston, for numerous and substantial contributions, including her work on H.R. 4108, "Breath of Fresh Air Act of 2014," and the highly successful "When Women Succeed, America Succeeds" leadership summit held in Houston in March of this year.

Josh Crook, a student at the University of North Texas, provided invaluable assistance to me and my legislative team in the areas of national defense and veterans affairs. In doing so, Josh continued his record of providing distinguished service to his country first begun with his enlistment in the Armed Services as an airman in the U.S. Air Force. Josh's experience and understanding of the challenges faced by veterans transitioning from active duty to the civilian sector was critical to the development of legislation I introduced earlier this year, H.R. 4110, "Helping to Encourage Real Opportunity for Veterans Transitioning from Battlespace to Workplace Act of 2014," also known as the "Heroes Transitioning from Battlespace to Workplace Act of 2014."

Katherine Welbeck came to my office from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, from which she will graduate next month and go on to a highly successful career in law and public policy. A graduate of Princeton University and former teacher in the Teach for America Corps, Katherine brought to my office a commitment to educational opportunity for all persons, especially girls and young women, and a passion for justice and fairness. Because of Katherine's initiative and skill, I was able to introduce H.R. 4112, Equal Rights and Access for the Women of South Sudan Act," legislation requiring that activities of the United States in South Sudan relating to governance, reconstruction and development, and refugee assistance support human rights and promote the active participation of women in government and civil society.

Ayanna Costley is completing her junior year at the Madeira School in McLean, Virginia and judging by the work ethic and appetite for knowledge she displayed, can look forward to a bright future as she begins her college studies next year.

Mr. Speaker, the energy, intelligence, and idealism these wonderful young people brought to my office and those interning in the offices of my colleagues help keep our democracy vibrant. The insights, skills, and knowledge of the governmental process they gain from their experiences will last a lifetime and prove invaluable to them as they go about making their mark in this world.

Because of persons like them the future of our country is bright and its best days lie ahead. I wish them all well.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful that such thoughtful committed young men and women can be found working in my office, those of my colleagues, and in every community in America. Their good works will keep America great, good, and forever young.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING
SEASON OF THE 2013 DICKINSON
RED DEVILS MEN'S LACROSSE
TEAM

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleagues, Rep. JIM GERLACH (PA-6) and Rep. BILL SHUSTER (PA-9), to congratulate the players and coaches of the 2013 Dickinson College Red Devils Men's Lacrosse Team of Carlisle, Pennsylvania on their incredible season which was capped by their advancement to the "Elite Eight" in the 2013 NCAA Division III National Championship Tournament.

The 2013 Dickinson Red Devils captured the Centennial Conference Championship for a third consecutive season en route to their appearance in the quarterfinals of the NCAA National Championship Tournament. The team was led by First-team All-American, Division III Long Pole Midfielder of the Year and Iroquois Award winner for Outstanding Player of the Year, Brandon Palladino; First-team All-American and Lt. Col. J.I. Turnbull Award winner, Brian Cannon; and First-team All-Americans Matt Cherry and Peter Zouck. Slay Sudah was named Third-team All-American and Greg Hanley and Parker Waldron received honorable mention recognition.

The Red Devils' 2013 roster included: Reid Barger, Nick Baxter, Christian Beitel, Matt Brinc—kerhoff, Greg Castro, Chris Clementi, Reiley Crosby, Eric Dircks, Draper Donley, Collin Farrell, Kobi Frankel, Nolan Funchion, Brian Gleason, Youssef Gorgi, Patrick Haig, Mattison Hamilton, D.J. Henderson, Rob Kendall, Greg Kirchner, Marek Laco, Dave Largey, Kevin Leary, Nick Leon, Chris Menard, Carter Moore, Andrew Morgan, Palmer Murray, Jack O'Connor, Brett Parker, Graham Parsons, Max Pawk, Chris Pianko, Mike Reid, Sam Rosenburgh, Reed Salmons, Andrew Salvitti, Will Scott, Mike Serpa, Nick Shepherd, Greg Shildkrout, Michael Smith, Ace Sudah, Will Trevenen, and Tyler White. The Red Devils were ably led by Head Coach David Webster, Assistant Coaches Tim Marshall and Pat March, Statisticians Emily David and Rachel Moore, Athletic Trainer Adam Richmond with dedicated administrative support by College Athletic Director Dr. Les Poolman.

Mr. Speaker, in light of their outstanding accomplishments and noteworthy season, we ask that our colleagues join us today in recognizing the players and coaches of the Dickinson College Red Devils Men's Lacrosse Team of Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

TRIBUTE TO THE MEN AND
WOMEN OF THE INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL
WORKERS LOCAL 58

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the men and women of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 58, who celebrated their 100th Anniversary at a gala I was pleased to join on Saturday, April 12th. In 1914, IBEW Locals 18 and 271 merged to create IBEW Local 58. For the last 100 years, IBEW members helped to build the City of Detroit and Southeast Michigan, served our nation at home and overseas during wartime, engaged in volunteer activities to strengthen our communities, and have stood at the forefront of workers' rights on the job.

The rich history of Local 58 is inextricably bound with the history of Southeast Michigan and of the nation. Local 58 was created to ensure that its members have safe working conditions, receive fair wages and health and welfare benefits, and security when they retire. These vital responsibilities helped propel the men and women of Local 58 to the forefront of the labor movement in Southeast Michigan, and due to their efforts as well as those of many others, working people can achieve and thrive in the American middle class.

While building the middle class, the members of IBEW Local 58, along with their brothers and sisters in other building trades unions, literally built the City of Detroit and the Southeast Michigan region. Iconic Detroit projects such as the Ambassador Bridge, the Fisher Building, the Guardian Building, the Detroit Opera House, the Fox Theater, and the Masonic Temple were built using the skills of IBEW Local 58's members. In 1948, Local 58 wired Briggs Stadium for lights so that the Detroit Tigers could play nighttime games. As Detroit and the region grew along with the growth of the automotive industry, Local 58 workers brought electricity to the new homes being built in Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties.

Local 58 members have served in the armed forces in every war our nation has fought since World War I. Beginning in World War II and in every war since then, Local 58 has ensured that those members who served in the military during wartime would have their union dues paid while they were in service, and that they could return to the union with no loss of status or seniority when their service was completed. The men and women of Local 58 also served our country at home during times of war, most notably during World War II, when Detroit was known as the "Arsenal of Democracy" and skilled workers were needed to retrofit automobile factories to produce the aircraft, tanks, and artillery needed to win the war. More than half of the tanks, 75 percent of the aircraft engines, and 92 percent of the cars and trucks used by the military in World War II were built in Detroit factories.

The men and women of Local 58 have always been involved in efforts to strengthen the communities in which they live and work and to support causes important to them. From their donations to the American Red Cross, Boys Town and the National Foundation for

Infantile Paralysis in the 1940s and 1950s to their work on behalf of Habitat for Humanity and to local churches, community centers and schools today, IBEW members have been willing to commit their time, talents and money to help others.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent so many members and families of IBEW Local 58 in Michigan's 9th Congressional District. For the last century, they have demonstrated a steadfast commitment to excellence on the job, to the rights of working people, to the well-being of Detroit and Southeast Michigan, and to the strength of our country. I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the men and women of Local 58 as they celebrate 100 years of excellence, and in wishing them continued success in their second century.

TRIBUTE TO ANDREW LIVERIS

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Andrew Liveris in recognition of his 60th birthday on Monday, May 5, 2014.

Originally from Darwin, Australia, Andrew currently resides in my hometown of Midland, Michigan with his wife Paula and three children. Mr. Liveris has been an instrumental figure at The Dow Chemical Company for over 35 years, serving in a myriad of positions spanning three continents. He is currently the company's President, Chairman, and Chief Executive Officer. Under his guidance, the Company has continued unparalleled success across the globe, in addition to being a key employer in Midland. He is a true visionary and an innovative leader in the field of manufacturing.

In addition to his success at Dow, Mr. Liveris has carried on and expanded the company's culture of community outreach to improve the quality of life of all Midland residents. The company continues to play a crucial role in the vitalization of the City of Midland, sponsoring local events such as the Dow Tennis Invitational and the Midland Community Center's Dow RunWalk. With strategic planning and a focus on the lives of those within the company and the community, Mr. Liveris has taken to new heights, the important relationship, and friendship, between Dow and Midland.

On a national scale, Mr. Liveris is an advocate for expanding the important role of manufacturing in our economy and his expertise expands well beyond his work at Dow. He serves as co-chair of President Obama's Advanced Manufacturing Partnership in the United States, where he continues to present viable business policy solutions for economic growth.

As a successful business leader and community organizer, Mr. Liveris has received numerous awards including the Chemical Industry Medal by the Society of Chemical Industry, the CEO of the Year award at the Platts Global Energy Awards, and the George E. Davis Medal by the Institution of Chemical Engineers. Most notably, he has been identified for his influence in the global chemical markets as a Top Power Player by the ICIS Chemical Business magazine for several consecutive years.